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EXAMINER

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ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the communication filed on March 12, 2008.

Response to Amendment

2. Claims 1-20 are pending in this office action.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiba (US Patent 6,651,120) in view of Veilleux (US Publication 2002/0161659).

With respect to claim 1, Chiba discloses a managing method for physically managing data that represents a document for eventual presentation to a user, based on said data, which comprises the steps of:

acquiring the data from an appropriate document source in a source

representation (Chiba: Column 1, lines 17-26; Figure 10),

selectively converting the data in source representation to data in destination representation, while selectively storing in a database managed data in an intermediate representation (Chiba: Column 2, lines 40-47; Item 18 in Figure 10),

first, assessing quantitative physical storage constraints associated with storing the managed data (Chiba: Column 2, lines 40-53; Column 6, lines 15-33; Column 9, lines 28-34; Figure 10; Here storage constraints are assessed when data is stored in the storage unit according to storage capacity and also when data is converted into different sizes),

second, assessing quantitative physical converting constraints associated with converting the stored managed data from the source representation to the presentation (Chiba: Column 2, lines 40-47), and

executing the converting before said storing, and/or after said storing, respectively, on a dynamic trade-off basis between said first assessment and said second assessment, while further considering one or more applicable source profiles and one or more applicable destination profiles (Chiba: Column 2, lines 40-60; Here the data conversion is done automatically by the data converting unit).

However, Chiba does not explicitly disclose:

wherein the selectively converting step selectively converts the data in the source representation to the data in the destination representation based on an Idiosyncratic destination profile of a destination apparatus represented by the destination representation automatically and without receiving a specification of a conversion form

of the data in the destination representation from a user.

The Veilleux reference, however, discloses converting data in the source representation to the data in the destination representation based on a destination profile of a destination apparatus represented by the destination representation automatically and without receiving a specification of a conversion form of the data in the destination representation from a user (Veilleux: Paragraph 51, lines 1-19; Paragraph 63, lines 1-10; Paragraph 64, lines 1-11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to modify the teachings of Chiba with the teachings of Veilleux to convert data in source representation to destination representation based on a destination profile automatically for color image display accuracy in a network having multiple clients that submit images and multiple clients that receive images (Veilleux: Paragraph 7, lines 4-6).

With respect to claim 2, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

third, assessing the quantitative physical transfer constraints associated with transferring the managed data over a transfer facility of an applicable distributed system, and in said execution providing a further dynamic trade-off basis through the application of the third assessment (Chiba: Column 2, lines 50-53; Item 14 in Figure 10; Here transfer constraints are assessed).

With respect to claim 3, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, wherein the document essentially relates to an image (Chiba: Column 1, lines 17-21; Figures 6-9).

With respect to claim 4, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the quantitative physical storage constraints are based on storage space availability, the quantitative physical converting constraints are based on destination delay allowability, and the quantitative physical transfer constraints are based on transfer facility availability and/or transfer duration (Chiba: Column 2, lines 40-53; Column 6, lines 15-33; Column 9, lines 28-34; Figure 10).

With respect to claim 5, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 4, wherein the quantitative physical converting constraints and/or the quantitative physical transfer constraints are based on a quality-of-service metric (Chiba: Column 2, lines 40-53; Column 6, lines 15-33; Column 9, lines 28-34; Figure 10; Here the constraints can be based on a quality-of service metric).

With respect to claim 6, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 2, wherein the quantitative physical storage constraints, the quantitative physical converting constraints, and the quantitative physical transfer constraints are made comparable through assigning to the respective constraints appropriate absolute values of a cost metric (Chiba: Column 2, lines 40-53; Column 6, lines 15-33; Column 9, lines

28-34; Figure 10; Here the constraints can be based on a quality-of service metric and can be comparable with appropriate cost metrics).

With respect to claim 7, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, executed by consulting a rule base (Chiba: Item 19 in Figure 10).

With respect to claim 8, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, wherein the converting is effected through a sequence of sub-conversions to produce one or more intermediate representations which are stored in lieu of storing an eventual destination representation (Chiba: Column 4, lines 39-45).

With respect to claim 9, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, wherein available storage space is optimally assigned to the storing of various documents in various representations for future user requests for image presentations (Chiba: Column 4, lines 39-45; Column 5, lines 43-48).

With respect to claim 10, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 9, wherein coexistent storage of a particular document in a plurality of different representations is provided (Chiba: Figure 10; Figure 15; Here it is disclosed that data can be converted to multiple formats and stored).

With respect to claim 11, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, wherein document data is maintained in the database, governed by one or more persistency rules (Chiba: Column 11, line 18; Figure 10; Figure 15; Here data is maintained in a storage with one or more persistency rules, the storage can also be a database).

With respect to claim 12, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, wherein document data in the database is governed by one or more garbage collection rules (Chiba: Column 6, lines 15-33; Column 11, line 18; Figure 10; Here data is stored for use in a storage with limited capacity, once the use for the data ends, it can inherently be removed to make room for new data. This removal can be governed by one or more garbage collection rules).

With respect to claim 13, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, wherein further image presentation is allowed in a thumbnail version (Chiba: Column 6, lines 29-33; Item 20 in Figure 10 discloses a display unit for image data in various formats, inherently one of the representations can be a standard thumbnail version if there are multiple image data for display).

With respect to claim 14, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, wherein a source device is substantially uniformly operated at its highest possible image presenting quality level (Chiba: Item 31 in Figure 8 is a resolution converting unit

which can present the image data in highest possible quality level).

With respect to claim 15, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, wherein a source device is operated at an image processing level quality that is at least co-determined by the eventual requirements associated with an intended user device and/or application (Chiba: Column 8, lines 56-63).

With respect to claim 16, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, wherein an application to invoke a remote server facility is provided through a remote interface (Chiba: Figure 10; Figure 15; Here data can be transferred to a remote storage through network interface).

With respect to claim 17, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the method of claim 1, which comprises, providing for operation with multiple users, a data consistency maintained through an appropriate locking mechanism (If multiple users operate at the same time, inherently a locking mechanism can be implemented to maintain data conversion and transfer integrity).

With respect to claim 18, Chiba discloses a management system for physically managing information that represents a document for eventual presentation to a user, based on said data and provided by a destination profile, which comprises:

acquiring means for acquiring said information from an appropriate document

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source in a source representation (Chiba: Column 1, lines 17-26; Figure 10),

converting means for selectively converting without user involvement data in source representation to data in destination representation (Chiba: Column 2, lines 40-47; Item 18 in Figure 10),

storing means for selectively storing, in a database, managed data as an intermediate item of said management system (Chiba: Column 6, lines 15-33; Column 11, line 18; Figure 1; Figure 10),

assessing means for assessing first quantitative physical storage constraints associated with storing said managed information, second quantitative converting constraints associated with converting said stored data in source representation to said data in destination representation and third quantitative physical transferring constraints associated with transferring said managed data over a transfer facility, wherein said conversion is done automatically (Chiba: Column 2, lines 40-53; Column 6, lines 15-33; Column 9, lines 28-34; Figure 10; Here storage constraints are assessed when data is stored in the storage unit according to storage capacity and also when data is converted into different sizes, converting constraints are assessed by the operation instructing unit, and transfer constraints are assessed by the operation instructing unit), and

execution means for executing said converting before said storing, and/or after said storing and/or after said transferring, on a dynamic trade-off basis, produced by said assessing means (Chiba: Column 2, lines 40-60).

However, Chiba does not explicitly disclose:

wherein the converting means selectively converts the data in the source representation to the data in the destination representation based on an idiosyncratic profile of a destination apparatus represented by the destination representation automatically and without receiving a specification of a conversion form of the data in the destination representation from a user.

The Veilleux reference, however, discloses converting data in the source representation to the data in the destination representation based on a destination profile of a destination apparatus represented by the destination representation automatically and without receiving a specification of a conversion form of the data in the destination representation from a user (Veilleux: Paragraph 51, lines 1-19; Paragraph 63, lines 1-10; Paragraph 64, lines 1-11).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to modify the teachings of Chiba with the teachings of Veilleux to convert data in source representation to destination representation based on a destination profile automatically for color image display accuracy in a network having multiple clients that submit images and multiple clients that receive images (Veilleux: Paragraph 7, lines 4-6).

With respect to claim 19, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses the system of claim 18 comprising one or more source facilities, and one or more destination facilities linked with each other through a transfer facility for the physical managing of information contained in a database facility and a server facility (Chiba: Column 11, lines 14-24;

Figure 10; Figure 15; Figure 16).

With respect to claim 20, Chiba in view of Veilleux discloses a computer program containing a set of instructions which, when used in a general-purpose computer, performs the managing method of claim 1 (Chiba: Column 11, lines 5-13; Figure 10; Figure 15; Figure 16).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Kawabata reference (US Publication 2004/0047510) teaches

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about a method of producing publications. The Nelson reference (US Patent 6,732,915 teaches about controlling a presentation. The Okada reference (US Patent 5,956,029) discloses a user interface conversion method. The Pallmann reference (US Patent 6,094,684) teaches about an apparatus for data communication. The Aoyama reference (US Patent 7,240,063) teaches about a system for getting conversion rules. The Sasaki reference (US Publication 2001/0013070) teaches about a data conversion system and data conversion method.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to REZWANUL MAHMOOD whose telephone number is (571)272-5625. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 10 A.M. - 5 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571)272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/R. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 2164

June 23, 2008

/Charles Rones/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2164